

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 043536
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:JRCOUNTRYMAN
APPROVED BY NEA:ALATHERTON, JR
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NSC:RBARTHOLOMEW
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 043536

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, SA

SUBJECT: AID TO SOMALIA

REF: STATE 042373

1. FURTHER TO REFTEL, FBIS OF 13 FEBRUARY CARRIES MOSCOW
DOMESTIC SERVICE ITEM "SOVIET CORRESPONDENT REPORTS FROM
ETHIOPIAN FRONTLINE."

2. FOLLOWING IS EXCERPT FROM SOVIET REPORT: QUOTE:
WALKING BETWEEN SEVERAL ROWS OF AMERICAN MORTARS, I READ
THE INSCRIPTION ON ONE OF THEM--MORTAR CALIBER 81
MILLIMETER, SERIAL NUMBER 16,217. THEN CAME THE NAME OF
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PAGE 02 STATE 043536

THE OWNER--THE U.S. ARMY. THE LITTLE PLATE ON THE
BRAND NEW BROWNING MACHINE GUN STANDING NEXT TO IT, WITH
THE NUMBER 800-4304, INFORMED ONE THAT IT HAD BEEN MADE
AT THE AMERICAN CORPORATION'S GENERAL MOTORS FACTORY. ON
BOXES CONTAINING MINES WERE INSCRIPTIONS IN ENGLISH AND
ARABIC; PACKAGING NUMBER 085-56: PROPERTY OF THE SAUDI
ARABIAN MINISTRY OF DEFENSE AND AVIATION. END QUOTE.

3. DOD CONFIRMS THAT THE 81MM MORTAR WAS ALSO SOLD TO SAUDI ARABIA AS PART OF FMS CASE UDP-400. WITH ONLY THE MANUFACTURER'S NUMBER FOR THE MACHINE GUN AND THE MINE

PACKAGES WE HAVE AS YET BEEN UNABLE TO DETERMINE TO WHOM THESE ITEMS WERE SOLD.

4. IF YOU HAVE ALREADY APPROACHED THE SAUDIS ON THIS GENERAL SUBJECT, YOU SHOULD NOT MAKE A SEPARATE DEMARCHE ON THE BASIS OF THIS INFORMATION. VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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